Crimson Flower Translations

Translation & English Adaptation: Kuronekooo3
Translation QC: Peonine & Jade
Cleaning & Redrawing: Kuronekooo3 & Ichigo Stars
Final Image Editing & Lettering: Kuronekooo3
Proofreading & QC: Zenny & Claire Beebuss

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This series currently runs in Japanese language "Princess" magazine.

Aya Kanno
Chapter 6
第6話
A forbidden dark fantasy invitation to death
薔薇王の葬列
The Rose King's Funeral Procession
Baraon no Souretsu

Which way to the town of York?
You're injured, aren't you?
That blood ...
Hey, you...
It's that way.
.....
With an injury like that, shouldn't you turn back? ..Goodness!
They've resorted to plundering since there is no recompense God-damned army
Well, be wary of those who are hunting knights.
God's speed and safe return to your kin.

WHOOSH
We're the only ones left...
...There is nothing left for us but to pray now.
It is too soon for prayers.
Ugh!
TWUP
TWUP
TWUP
Guh!
The tide of battle favors us.
Lord Edward's reinforcements are approaching
We will do what we must to stand our ground until our forces merge
Earl Warrick!

King Richard's ...nor my dream
.....
I will not let
end here.
Please have a look, Your Majesty.
Isn't it the height of pleasure?
It's a pity Warrick's corpse isn't among the dead,
but I did decorate the gates of the town of York
with the head of that upstart traitor who tried to steal your throne.
...Ugh!

I swore a written oath,

and this is what has become of it!

Aah, it repulses me!

I don't want to hear any more of this talk...

You did indeed swear a written vow to relinquish the throne to York and that son of his.

Yes, you did, Your Majesty.

It is a matter of course that the son of a King shall become a King!

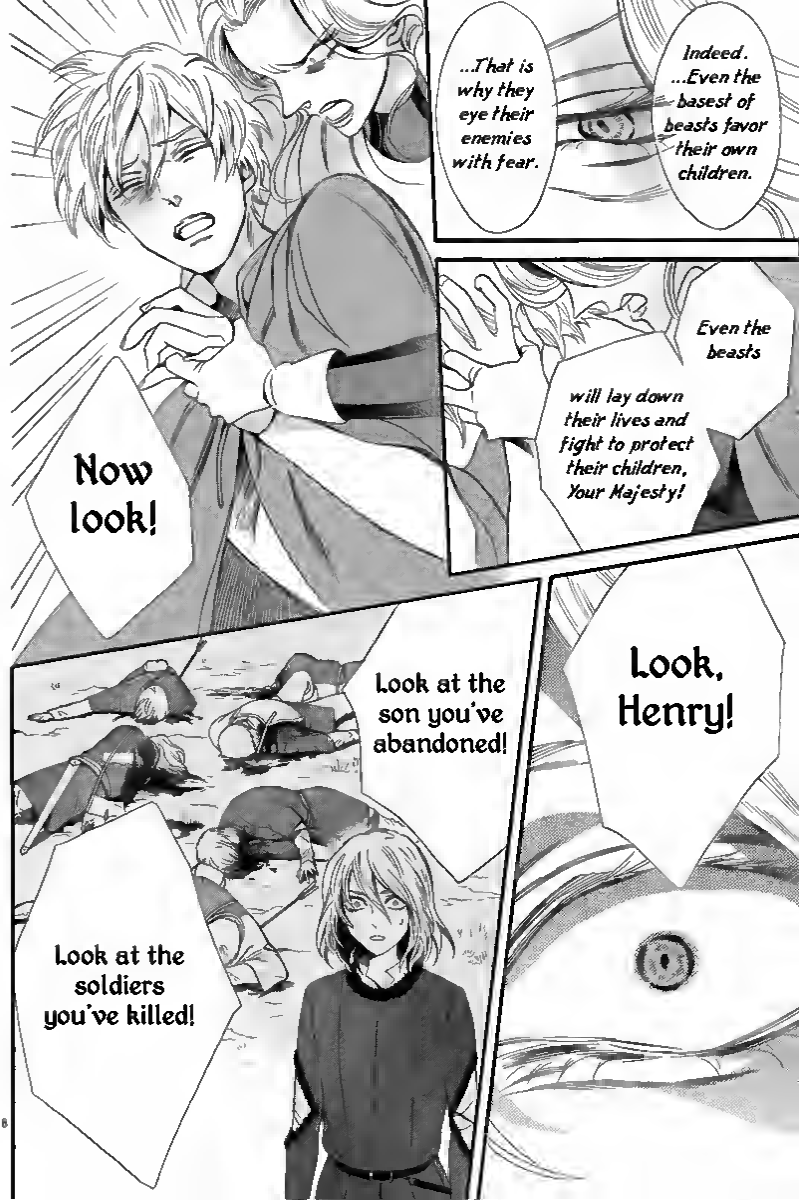
Father has not disinherited me.

Tell that child directly.

Prithee say, Your Majesty,

...Mother,

what sort of impertinence gripped you and made you throw away your own son's right of succession?


...That is why they eye their enemies with fear.
Indeed. ...Even the basest of beasts favor their own children.
Even the beasts
will lay down their lives and fight to protect their children, Your Majesty!
Now look!
Look, Henry!
Look at the son you've abandoned!
Look at the soldiers you've killed!

IT'S NOT MY DOING!
It's...
I had no other choice...
There was no other way!

...You pitiful man.
If I had been at the signing,
instead of listening to a word they had to say, I would have happily offered them their own heads.
...It's just that...
I didn't want anyone to die.
You cowardly King who knows no shame--
I shouldn't have become your wife.
Forgive me...
My Queen!
Forgive me...

It will become a problem if Warrick's and Edward's forces merge...
I'm sorry...
What is this you say?!
The mayor of London refused to open the gate!
Then persuade him somehow!
It seems he's afraid we'll plunder the city...
FATHER...!
Forgive me...
York...

What if...
I wonder if he is safe?
I HAVE TO HURRY TO FATHER'S SIDE!
NOBLE FATHER HAS BEEN IMPRISONED IN A FILTHY JAIL...
I HAVE TO FLY FASTER!
THE THOUGHT ALONE IS MADDENING!

How many days does he intend to make us wait?!
While he dilly-dallies the enemy regains strength!
But the mayor holds the key to the London gate...
KLANK!
The gates are still closed?!
We are the King and Queen!
With all due respect, Your Majesty ...
As of now, that authority does not lie with you...
!

We will go to London.
Then we will go and reclaim it.
.....
About the same age as me... with black hair...
Yes, that's it.
Like Your Highness?
Is something the matter?
I see...
.....
Huh?
Oh, never mind.
Hmm ...
I don't think I've seen anyone like that.
.....

huff
huff
huff
How far is it to York from here?
York?
Hey!
huff
The sun is setting, young man.
If you continue on your way, you will enter a thick forest.

I will ride through the night.
.....
I HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE.
SHAA

!
CLOP
CLOP
.....
SPLASH
....Hey!
Dammit!
Have I exhausted the horse?
AND IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
WHOOSH

I DON'T LIKE THE FOREST AT NIGHT.
huff
huff
Ugh!
huff
huff
huff

Is anyone here?
.....
.....
IS THIS A HOUSE THAT THE LANCASTERS PLUNDERED?
I hope father... is eating warm food...

.....
CHAK
SWIP!
Uh!
!!
young man?
Were you deserting the army

The rumors that London refuses to open its gate
and that the number of army deserters is growing are true, I see.
SLAM
Heh heh!
Hey, hurry up and strip his gear!
...Ugh!
DAMMIT!
KNIGHT HUNTERS...
That makes you an easy mark.
OH NO!
I DON'T HAVE ANY STRENGTH!
Stop resisting, whelp! You lot thoroughly trampled upon our village...
What's this?
Hey...
This whelp's
a girl!

Yeah, yeah, you complain about every little thing.
Ugh!
CHANK
CHANK
Save some for me after your go.
It must be my lucky day.
Stop...
NO!
Stop...
One go won't kill her. You'll have your turn
I AM NOT A WOMAN!!
Father!!
...Huh?
I said calm down...
What's this?

What...
are you?
Augh!
Wait! He's...
DASH!
WH
Please, run!
huff!
huff!
SAVE ME!
Ugh...!
Gya!

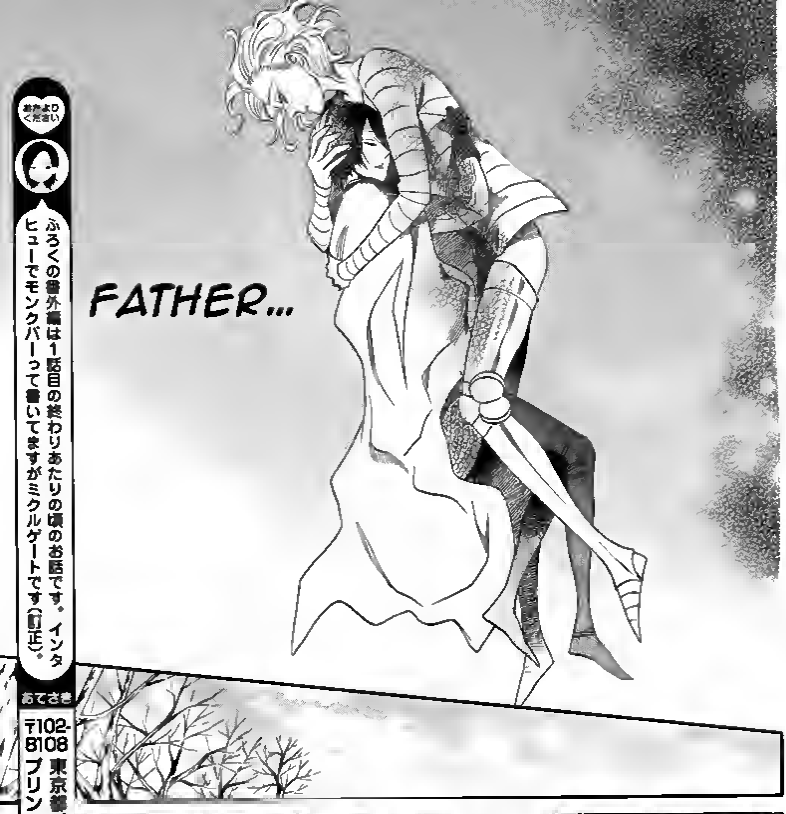
Father
...
EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT A WOMAN,
I AM NOT A WOMAN
...
Father...
RESCUE ME...
Richard!!

Devil's spawn!
Devil's spawn!
Devil's spawn!

I'm not!!
I'm not...
SAVE ME!
...I am...
I am not a child of the Devil...

MY FATHER'S CHILD...
I AM...
THE FOREST AT NIGHT...
I REALLY DO HATE
The forest where he is...
I was safe at that time... why?
My body won't move anymore...
IT'S COLD HERE.

IF FATHER WOULD CRY FOR ME...?
I WONDER
If I die...
Why are you here?
You...
.....
It's warm...
.....
appear before me...?
Why do you always...



あとがき

ふろくの番外編は1話目の終わりあたりの頃のお話です。インタビューでモンクバーって書いてますがミクルゲートです（訂正）。

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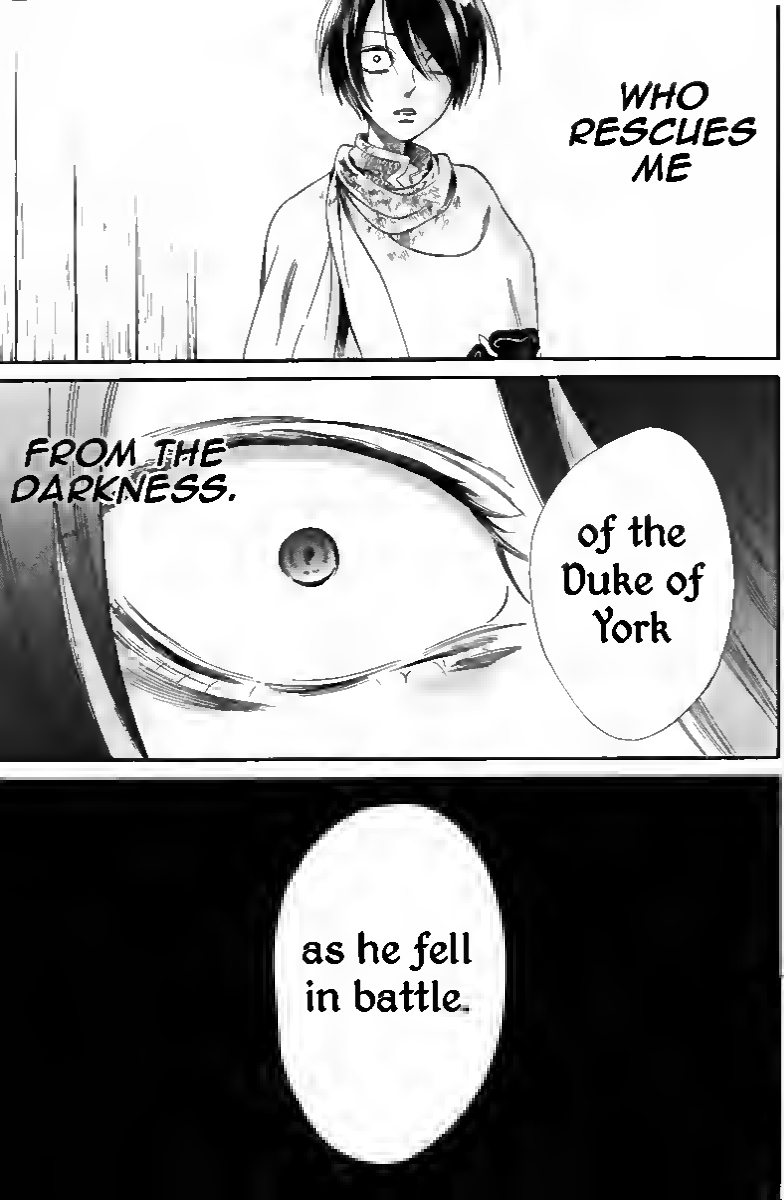
WAS THAT A DREAM?
WHOSE WARM ARM WAS THAT...?
WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SAVED ME...?
THAT WAS...
I'M SURE
THAT WAS FATHER.
No...
That was no dream.
That was...
I'm alive...
huff
huff

...Where is this place?
...Get this traveler something warm.
SLAM!
traveler.
York,
BECAUSE FATHER IS...
This is
FATHER
IS ALWAYS...
I haven't the time —
That insignia...
You should rest for a bit.
Please wait.
The city gate is just ahead.

FATHER IS
Are you also
in the Lancaster army?
THE ONLY ONE
...Who are you?
A person who saw the heartbreaking last moments

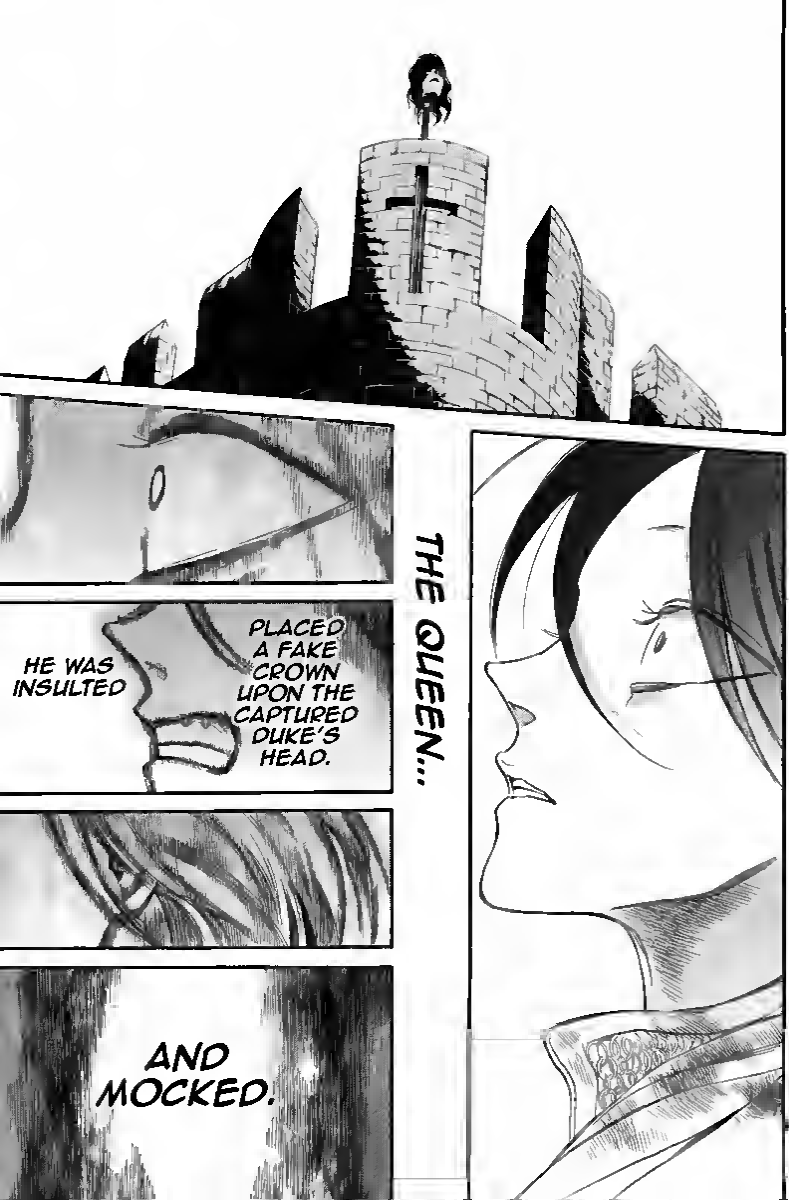

WHO RESCUES ME
FROM THE DARKNESS.
of the Duke of York
as he fell in battle.

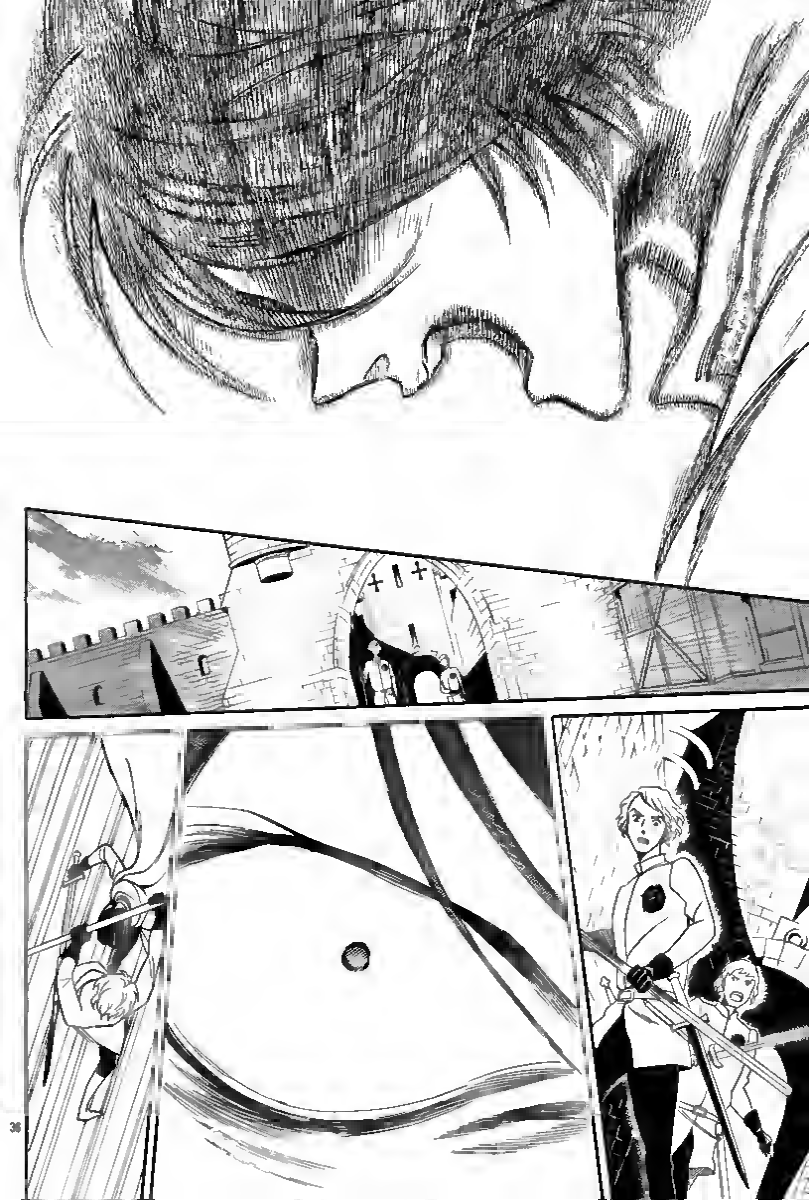
huff...
huff...

York has always been Lord Richard's homeland
For someone who was born here,
.....
Mercenaries side with the party who offers the best payment, but
huff ...
huff ...

it was too cruel.
.....
everything ...
...Tell me

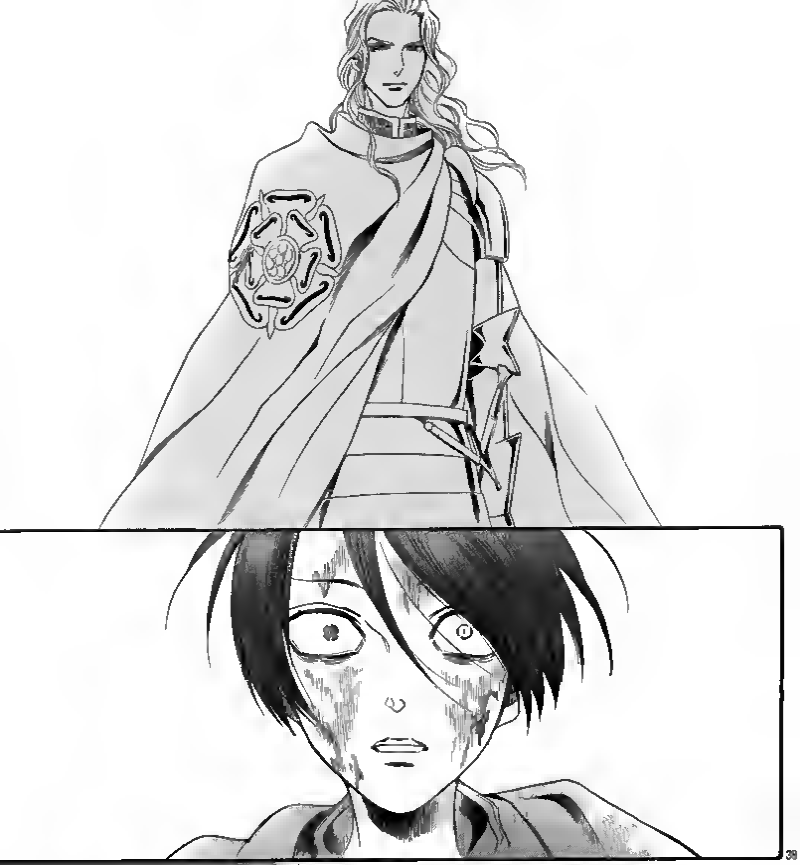
ALL OF IT.
LET ME HEAR
...His Excellency the Duke was...
.....
HE BRAVELY FOUGHT TO THE END, BUT...
WITHOUT RETREATING ONE STEP.
HE WAS CAPTURED.
EVENTUALLY
SURROUNDED BY A LARGE ARMY.

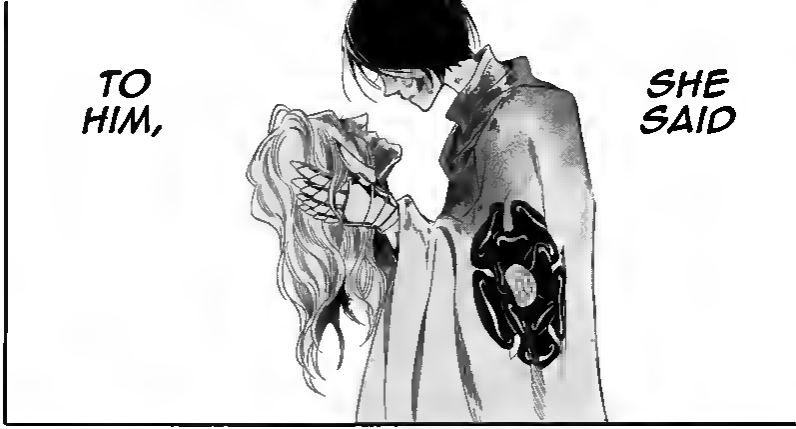

THE QUEEN...
HE WAS INSULTED
PLACED A FAKE CROWN UPON THE CAPTURED DUKE'S HEAD.
AND MOCKED.



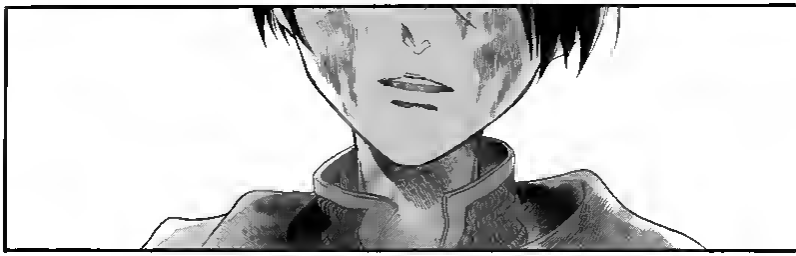
BEFORE HIS EYES,
THE QUEEN DROPPED A CLOTH
SHE THEN LAUGHED AS SHE TOLD HIM TO WIPE HIS TEARS WITH IT...
STAINED WITH HIS EXCELLENCY'S BELOVED SON'S BLOOD.

WITH HER CRUEL BLADE,
AS SHE TOOK OFF HIS HEAD
AND THEN FINALLY,





"Despair and die".



Father...

END OF CHAPTER 6